

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 SANTO 03181 101200Z
ACTION H-02

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-06 /009 W
-----021857 111402Z /47

R 092127Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4522

UNCLAS SANTO DOMINGO 3181

H PASS HONORABLE ROBERT C MCEWEN FROM AMBASSADOR ROBERT L YOST

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CDES DR (BRABANT, REJANE M)
SUBJECT: SCS CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE

REF A. CONGRESSMAN MCEWEN'S LTR OF 29 APR TO ASST
SECRETARY CONGRESSIONAL RELATIONS, B. STATE 139863

1. I REGRET TO LEARN OF DISTRESS SUFFERED BY YOUR CONSTITUENTS
MRS BEVERY LWELCH AND MRS VIVAN GRANGER AS RESULT OF TRAGIC
DEATH OF MISS REJANE BRABANT AT SAN PEDRO DE MACORIS, DOMINICAN
REPUBLIC, ON MARCH 26, 1978.

2. EMBASSY RECORDS INDICATE DUTY OFFICER MADE CONSIDERABLE
EFFORTS TO CONTACT MEMBERS OF TOUR GROUP TO OFFER ASSISTANCE.
FIRST NEWS OF MISS BRABANT'S DEATH WAS RECEIVED BY MARINE SECURITY
GUARD ON SUNDAY MARCH 26 IN PHONE CALL FROM PERSONS IDENTIFYING
THEMSELVES AS SISTER IN LAW OF DECEASED AND PIERRE CHAMGAGNE,
MIRABELLE TOURS DIRECTOR. PHONE NUMBER AS RECEIVED BY DUTY
OFFICER PROVED INCORRECT AND DESPITE REPEATED EFFORTS HE WAS
UNABLE TO CALL THROUGH TO HOSPITAL IN SAN PEDRO. NOT KNOWING
NAME OF TOUR GROUP NOR NAME THEIR HOTEL, HE ASKED SAN PEDRO
POLICE FOR ASSISTANCE TO REQUEST MEMBER OF GROUP TO CALL EMBASSY
AGAIN.

3. FORCED TO LEAVE EMBASSY TO ASSIST AMERICAN DETAINED BY LOCAL
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 SANTO 03181 101200Z

POLICE, THE DUTY OFFICER LEFT INFORMATION WITH MARINE GUARD TO BE
CONVEYED TO MISS BRABANT'S COMPANIONS SHOULD THEY CALL AGAIN. THE
GUARD UPON RECEIVING THEIR CALL, SUGGESTED THE NAMES OF TWO LOCAL
MORTUARY ESTABLISHMENTS WHICH IN PAST CASES HAD PROVEN TO BE
REPUTABLE AND COMPETENT TO COMPLETE ARRANGEMENTS FOR SHIPMENT
OF REMAINS TO US. HE ALSO URGED THAT A GROUP MEMBER COME TO THE
EMBASSY THE FOLLOWING DAY TO ASSIST IN COMPLETING NECESSARY

DOCUMENTATION. ONLY SUBSEQUENT CONTACT IN REGARD MISS BRABANT'S DEATH WAS BY MR BALNDINO, ONE OF THE TWO MORTICIANS SUGGESTED BY THE EMBASSY, WHO CAME TO OFFICE ON MARCH 27 TO COMPLETE DOCUMENTATION.

4. I WAS SORRY TO LEARN OF THE CONDITION OF MISS BRABANT'S REMAINS UPON ARRIVAL IN MASSENA, UNFORTUNATELY, MORTUARY PRACTICES IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, AND MOST OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD, DO NOT MEET STANDARDS MAINTAINED IN THE US.

5. AN \$8.00 FEE FOR A DEATH CERTIFICATE AUTHENTICATED BY BOTH DOMINICAN AND US AUTHORITIES IS NOT EXCESSIVE. EMBASSY HAS BEEN UNABLE TO COMPLETE THE CUSTOMARY REPORT OF DEATH OF AMERICAN CITIZEN FOR LACK OF REQUIRED DETAILS CONCERNING MISS BRABANT. IT IS REQUESTED THAT A RELATIVE OF MISS BRABANT COMMUNICATE WITH THE EMBASSY TO PERMIT COMPLETION OF THIS DOCUMENT WHICH OFTEN PROVES USEFUL FOR INSURANCE, ESTATE SETTLEMENT, AND OTHER PURPOSES.

6. PLEASE EXTEND TO YOUR CONSTITUENTS MY SYMPATHY IN THE LOSS OF THEIR COLLEAGUE.
YOST

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SANTO03181
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780244-0464
Format: TEL
From: SANTO DOMINGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780676/aaaacnav.tel
Line Count: 83
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: bacd428c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION H
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2414251
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SCS CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE
TAGS: CDES, DR, (BRABANT, REJANE M)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/bacd428c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014